

[Report No. 243.]

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

MARCH 3, 1859.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr. GILMAN, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, reported
the following bill :

A BILL

For the relief of the cities of Philadelphia and New Orleans, and
for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That*
3 the grant made by the Baron de Carondelet, governor general
4 of the Province of Louisiana, while under the dominion of the
5 crown of Spain, to the Baron de Bastrop, under date of June
6 twenty-one, seventeen hundred and ninety-six, as described on
7 the figurative plan of survey of Don Carlos de Trudeau, de-
8 posited in the archives of the United States land office at
9 Monroe, in the State of Louisiana, be, and the same is hereby,
10 confirmed to the said grantee, his legal representatives or
11 assigns : *Provided, That this act shall only be taken and con-*
12 *sidered as a relinquishment in favor of the parties aforesaid of*

13 all rights and claims of the United States in and to the lands
14 included within the limits of the above named grant that shall
15 be unsold or otherwise undisposed of by the United States
16 ninety days from the passage of this act.

1 SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be the
2 duty of the Commissioner of the General Land Office to cause
3 to be surveyed, under instructions to be issued by him, the
4 tract of land hereinbefore described and confirmed, and to issue
5 patents in favor of the proper parties to all lands within said
6 confirmed claim that may be unsold or undisposed of, as men-
7 tioned in the first section of this act : *Provided, however*, That
8 if any of said lands be owned or possessed by third persons,
9 claiming or deriving title thereto from the government of the
10 United States, including pre-emption rights not yet perfected,
11 and the lands that may enure to the State of Louisiana under
12 the swamp land grants, and to aid in the construction of a
13 railroad from Vicksburg, via Monroe and Shreveport, to the
14 Texas line, then the lands so owned or possessed by such
15 third parties shall not be included in the confirmation granted
16 by this act ; but, in lieu thereof, the party entitled to confirma-
17 tion as aforesaid shall receive from the Commissioner land war-
18 rants authorizing them to locate and enter, in all legal divisions
19 or subdivisions, any other land of the United States that may
20 be subject to entry at one dollar and a quarter per acre, or less,
21 which land warrants shall be assignable in the same manner

22 and according to the same rules and regulations as are now
23 applicable to military bounty land warrants, and shall not be
24 issued for quantities of more than six hundred and forty acres
25 nor less than one hundred and sixty acres.